



Aalto University  
School of Science

# Robustness, Reliability, Resilience and Elasticity (R3E) for Big Data/Machine Learning Systems

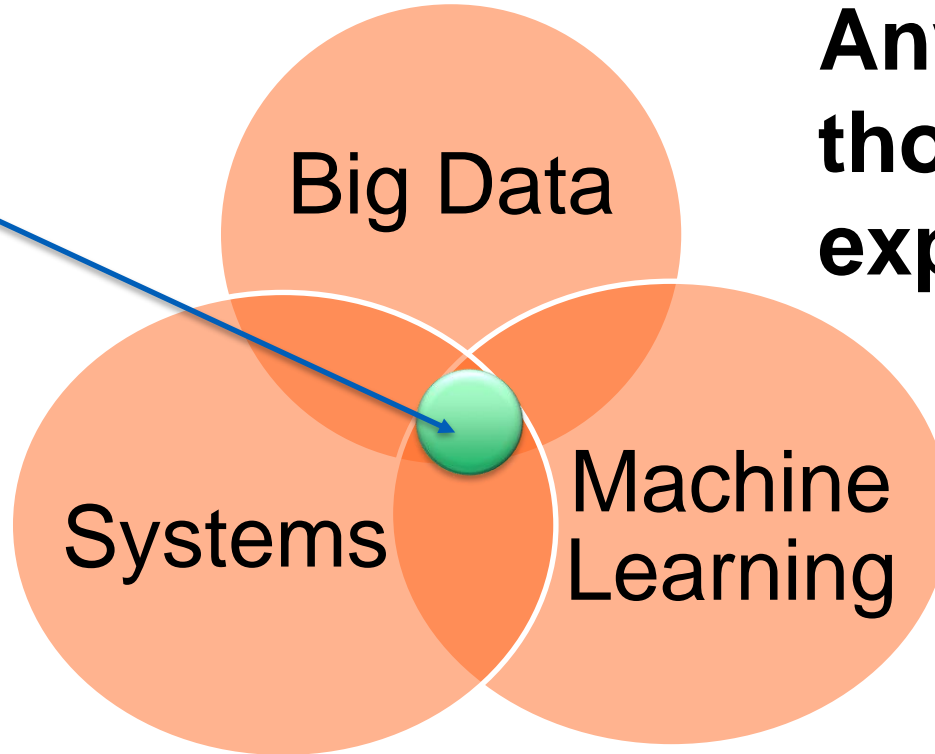
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# Our focus in this course

The focus



**Any idea,  
thought,  
expectation?**

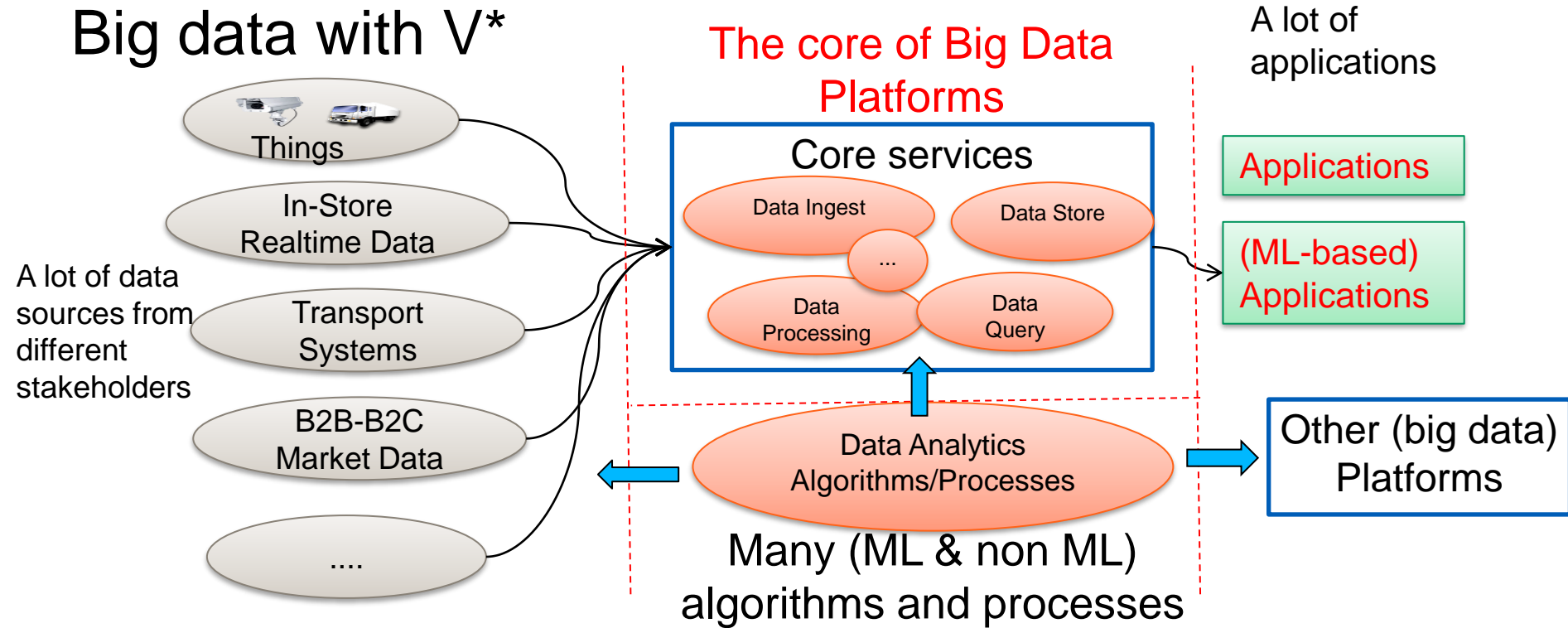
# Learning objectives

- **Identify commonality and complexity in end-to-end Big Data/ML systems**
- **Understand design goals and concerns for robustness, reliability, resilience and elasticity of Big Data/ML systems**
- **Learn an elasticity-based approach for R3E**
- **Examine real-world examples**

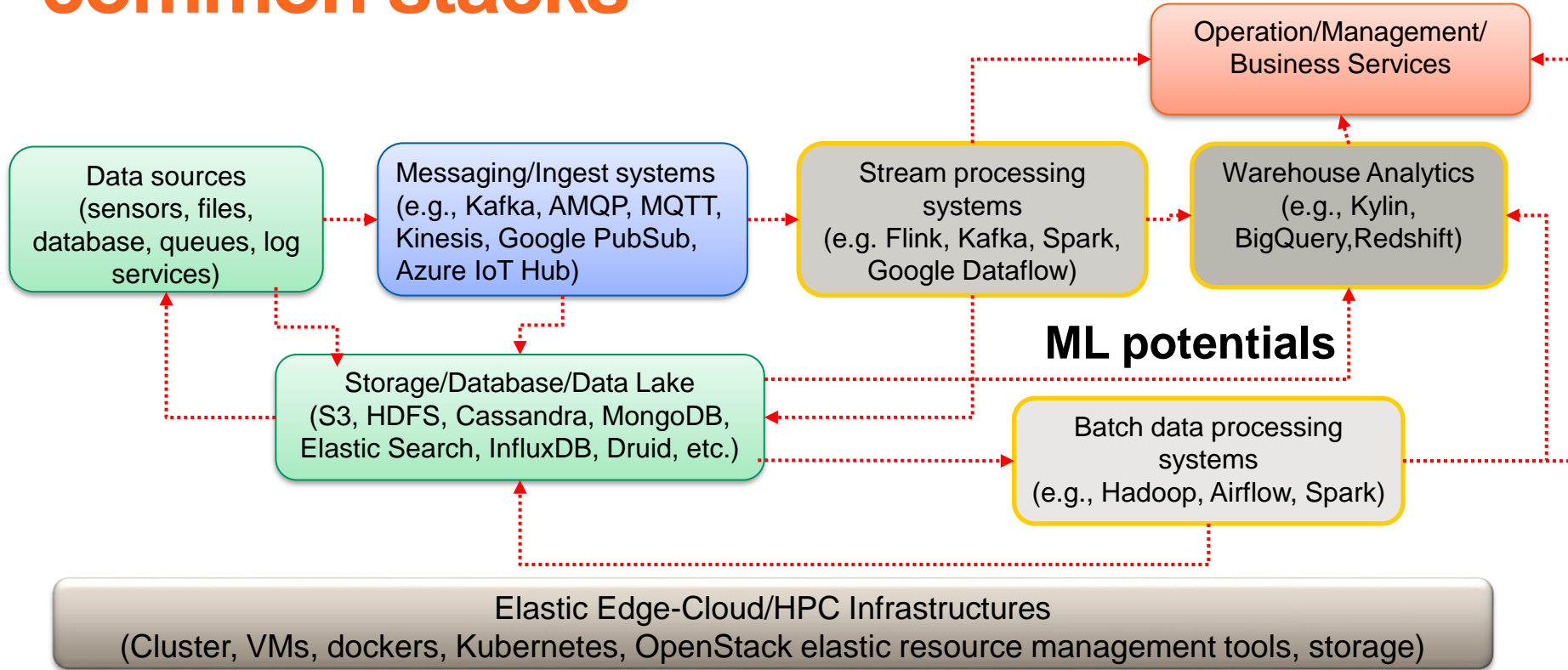
# Commonality and complexity in Big Data and Machine Learning systems

# Big data platforms: system of systems view

Big data with V\*



# Big data at large-scale: example of common stacks



# Examples from Big Data Platforms

**<https://version.aalto.fi/gitlab/bigdataplatforms/cs-e4640>**

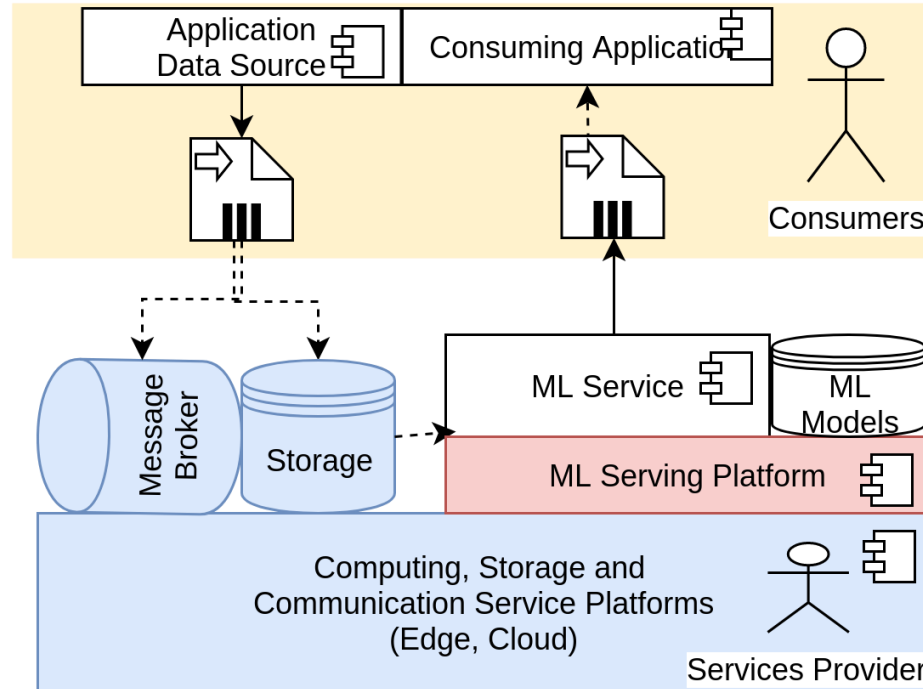
# ML systems

- **Components in machine learning systems**
  - machine learning models are a kind of “data processing” programs
  - many other components for data preparation, data management, data movement, experiment management, serving
- **Machine learning pipelines**
  - complex structured components, (meta)workflows
  - Engineering tools: testing, monitoring, etc.
- **Data**
  - training/validation/test data, and data to be inferenced
  - models and parameters, ML experiment settings and data
  - from the big data platforms viewpoint: they are all data!



# Consumers, model, services, platforms and infrastructures

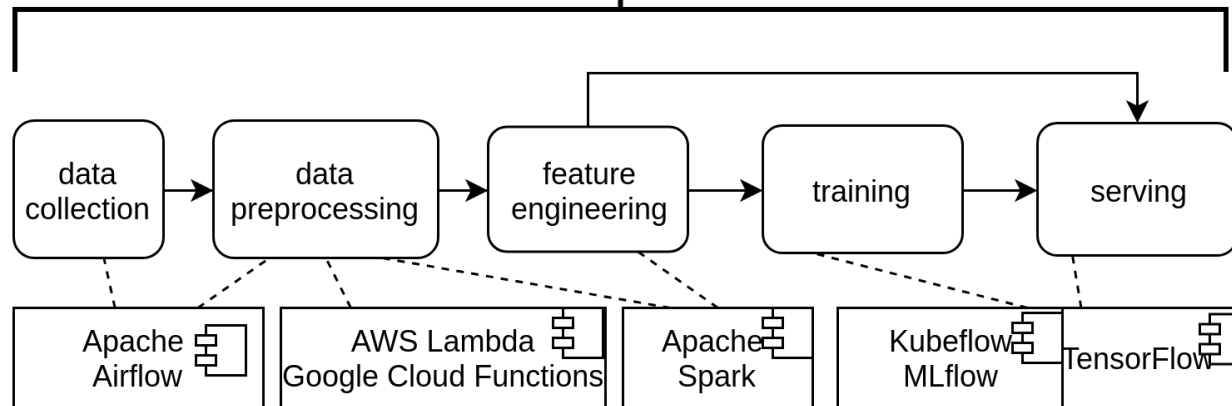
- More than just ML modes
- Complex design and components
- Mostly distributed and high performance computing



# ML workflows

- **Two possible levels:**
  - meta-workflow or pipeline
  - inside each phase: pipeline/workflow or other types of programs

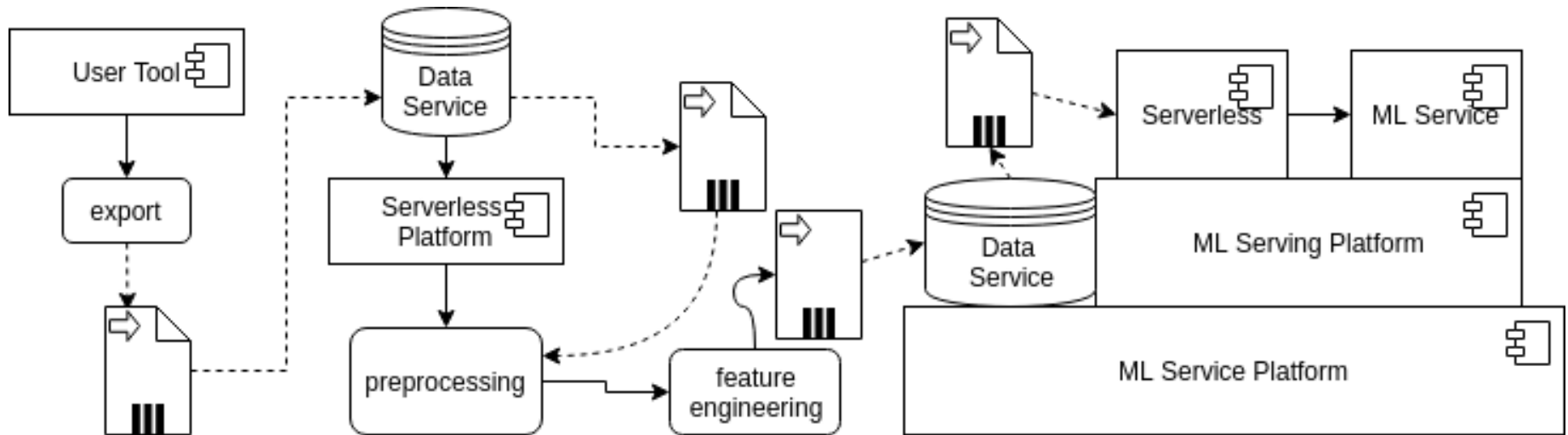
As a whole: (meta)pipeline for multiple phases



Subsystems: different components and internal workflows

# An abstract example

## Classifying objects in Building Information Model (BIM) in Architecture, Construction and Engineering

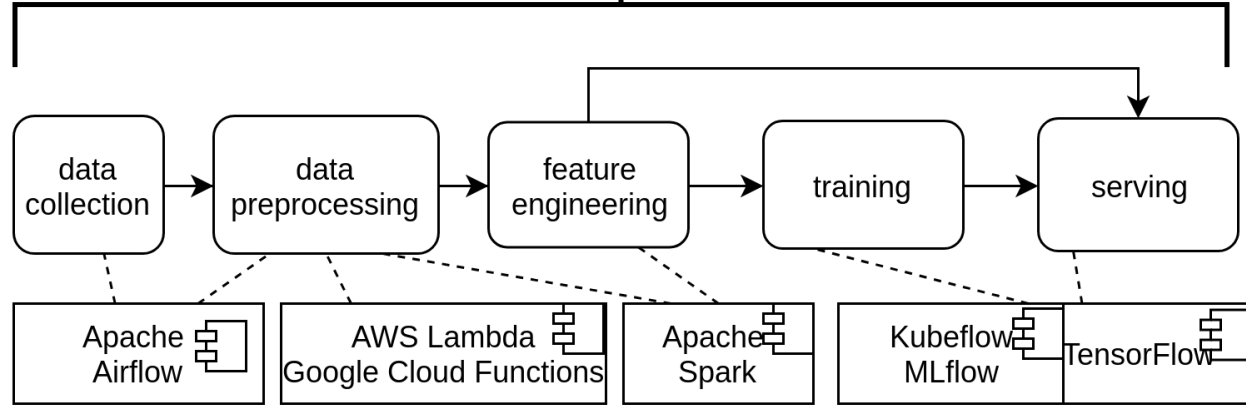


# System view: common characteristics of big data and ML systems?

- **(Static) system structures and functions**
  - include components, algorithms, input/output data
  - viewed as a whole, sub-systems, and individual parts
- **Computing and data infrastructures/platforms**
  - virtual machines/containers, brokers, storage, orchestration
- **Runtime quality/capability**
  - fault-tolerance, high-performance, high availability, secure, etc.

# Examples of common components in big data and ML systems

As a whole: (meta)pipeline for multiple phases



### Subsystems: different components and internal workflows

## Big data collection, ingestion, transformation

# Big data processing

## Resource management, workflow execution, data management tools, etc.

# Computing and data infrastructures

# Cloud/HPC

- **Clusters of VMs/containers**
  - e.g., in Aalto we use CSC (<https://www.csc.fi/>)
- **High performance systems**
- **Known accelerators**
  - GPU and FPGA
- **New AI Accelerators/Processing Units**
  - TPU (Tensor Processing Unit)
  - Neural Network Processor (NNP)
  - Vision Processor Unit (VPU)
  - IPU( Intelligent Processing Unit)

Google Cloud



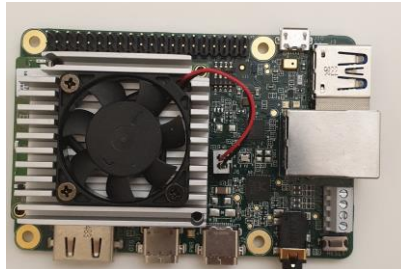
Illustration of the HPE Cray EX cabinets. Copyright: Hewlett Packard Enterprise

**Figure source: <https://www.lumi-supercomputer.eu/deep-dive-into-the-building-of-the-lumi-data-center/>**

# Edge systems

## New types of edge and edge-cloud

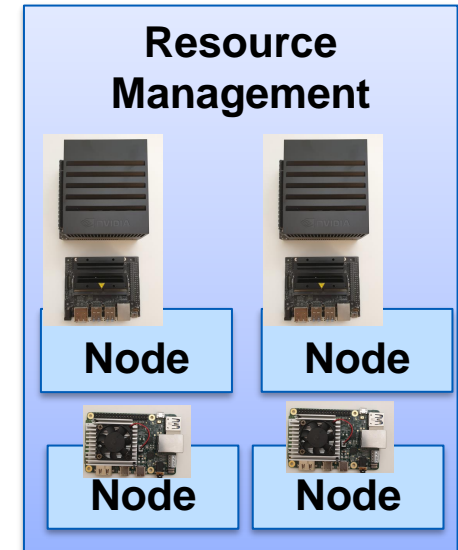
**Coral with Edge TPU**  
**System-on-Module, Google**  
**Edge TPU ML accelerator**  
**coprocessor**



**Jetson NVIDIA**  
**(GPU+CPU)**

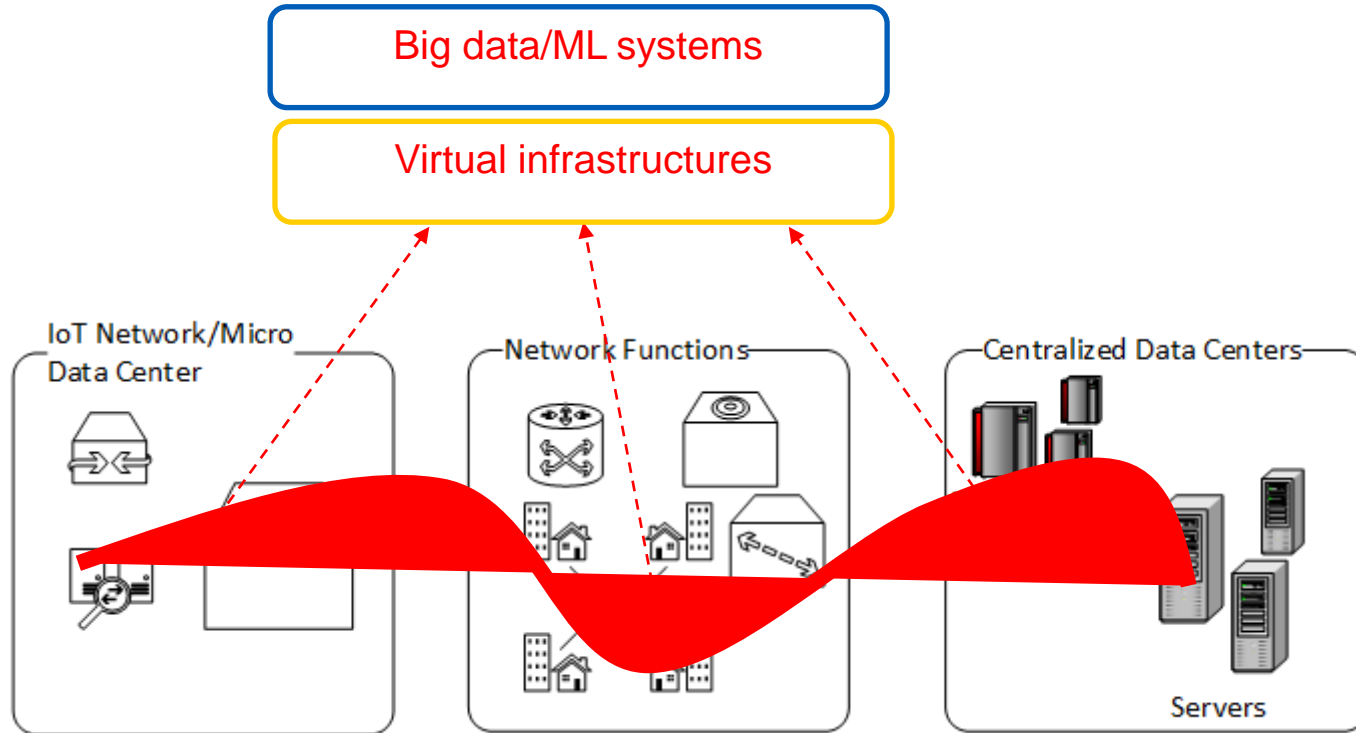


## Distributed Edge systems





# Harnessing and orchestrating end-to-end resources across edge-cloud-HPC



# Examples of common infrastructural/platform components

- **Data collection, ingestion, verification**
  - also data versioning management
- **Algorithms and serving components**
  - serving platforms and infrastructures
- **Configuration and workflow execution management**
- **Observability, monitoring and analysis**
- **Resource management and orchestration**

# Runtime abilities/capabilities

# Which runtime abilities/capabilities are important for your big data/ML systems?

# Examples

- Service performance
- Model accuracy and data quality
- Cost
- Scalability
- Failure handle/incidents management
- Site Reliability Engineering (SRE) concepts:
  - Service level agreement (SLA), service level objective (SLO) and service level indicator (SLI)
    - <https://landing.google.com/sre/sre-book/toc/index.html>

Which **runtime attributes are distinguishable** in big data/ML systems, compared with that in common cloud services?

# Robustness, Reliability, Resilience and Elasticity (R3E)

# Our objectives for end-to-end Big Data/ML systems engineering

- **Deal with end-to-end aspects that the real world requires**
  - e.g., not just ML models and their optimization
- **Reduce software and data engineering effort**
- **Scale our systems**
  - big data, large-scale infrastructures and high number of customers
- **Optimize the system under various constraints**
- **Offer a production-level “reliable service” for customers**

# The complexity of end-to-end view

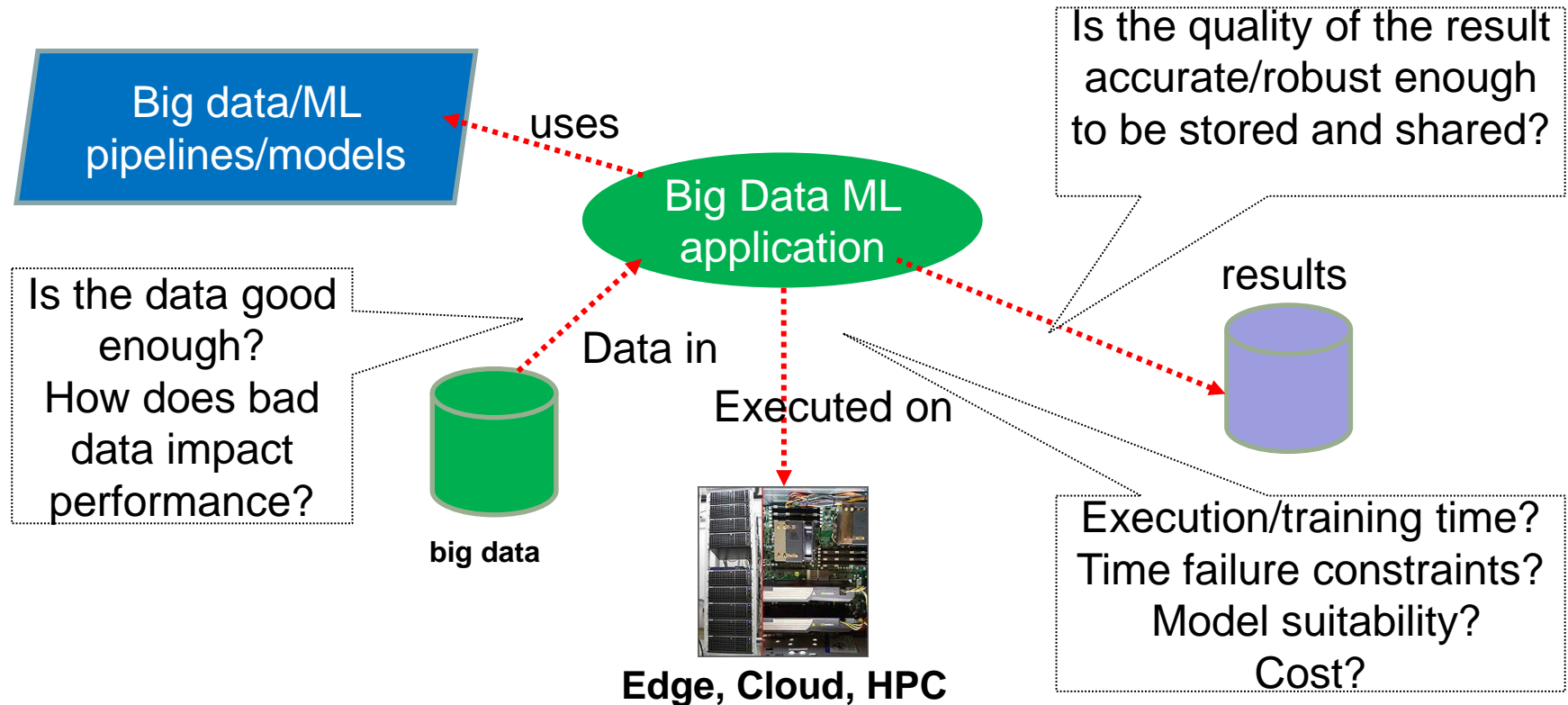
- **Engineering, optimizing and operating big data/ML systems**
  - which are key abilities that we should define, design, monitor, and measure?
  - how do we manage software artefacts, data, configuration, ...?
  - how to enable flexibility and execution management?
  - how to prepare for “future”/”emerging” infrastructures?
  - which are tools and frameworks that help reducing engineering complexity?



# Key areas in our concerns

- **Software development**
  - testing, experimenting, benchmark, optimization, cost management
- **Resource management**
  - execution atop multiple computing frameworks suitable for ML, such as Clouds, Supercomputing, edge, ...
- **(Runtime) ability/quality assurance**
  - specification, monitoring and assurance of performance, availability, costs, reliability, etc.

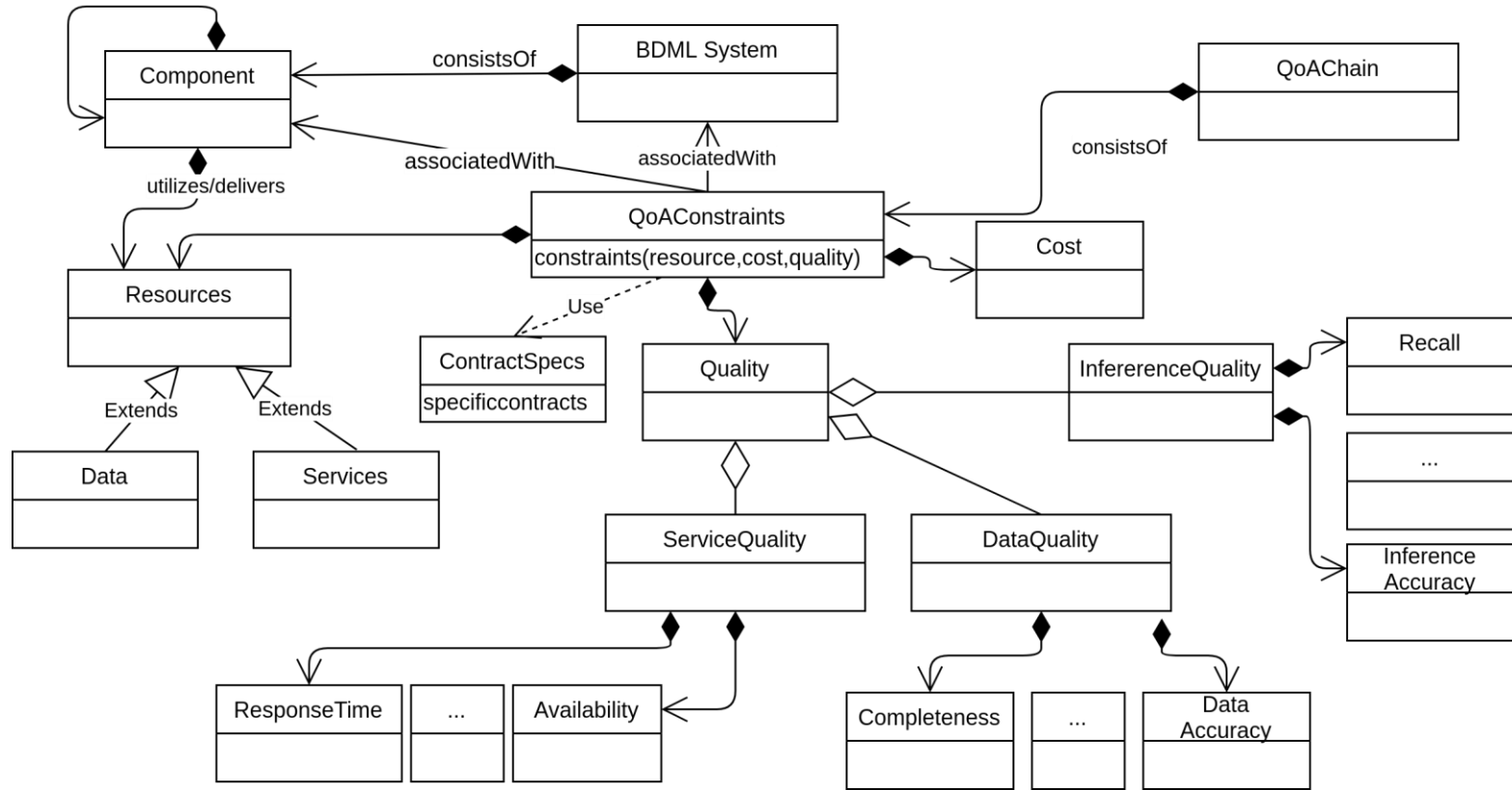
# Quality of Analytics (QoA)



**QoA = {quality of result, performance, cost}**

# Key attributes/indicators

Just example, can be more!



# Our focus – R3E

- **Robustness**
  - ability to cope with errors
- **Reliability**
  - ability to function according to the indented specification (in a proper way)
- **Resilience**
  - “ability to provide the required capability in the face of adversity”([https://www.sebokwiki.org/wiki/System\\_Resilience](https://www.sebokwiki.org/wiki/System_Resilience))
- **Elasticity**
  - ability to stretch and return to normal forms (under external forces)

# Robustness

- **In Machine Learning**
  - overfitting/underfitting
  - transfer learning
  - machine learning in an open-world
    - *how to deal with OOD (out-of-distribution) situations?*
  - when we can decide to stop training if performance/robustness does not improve?
- **In Big Data**
  - how to deal with erroneous and bad data?

# Reliability

- **System reliability versus “reliable service” (from customer/business/production view)**
- **System reliability**
  - reliable infrastructures, components, networks, ...
- **“Reliable service” → reliable data analysis/inference**
  - without failure, with specified performance
- **Some hard problems**
  - have good and enough data, clean data
  - robust pipelines without degraded performance and accuracy

# Resilience

- **Common issues in resilience**
  - distributed software and systems bugs
  - system attacks
- **Some specific issues in big data/ML systems**
  - bias in data
  - well-known problems in adversary attacks in ML phases

# Elasticity

- **Add and remove resources**
  - CPUs, memory, data, networks, ...
- **Dynamic changes of algorithms**
- **Shift computation between edge and cloud infrastructures dynamically**
  - cloud data centers, edge systems and edge-cloud systems
- **Add/remove data to improve performance**
- **Hyperparameter tuning tradeoffs**



# Short summary

Attributes	Cases from big data view	Cases from machine learning view
Robustness	deal with erroneous and bad data [48], data processing job robustness	dealing with imbalanced data, learning in an open-world (out of distribution) situations [36, 35, 23]
Reliability	reliable data sources, support of quality of data [49, 28], reliable data services [26], reliable data processing workflows/tasks [50]	reliable learning and reliable inference in terms of accuracy and reproducibility of ML models [35, 22]; uncertainties/confidence in inferences; reliable ML service serving
Resilience	software bugs, infrastructural resource failures, fault-tolerance and replication for data services and processing [47]	bias in data, adversary attacks in ML [25], resilience learning [14], computational Byzantine failures [8]
Elasticity	utilizing different data resources, increasing and decreasing data usage w.r.t. volume, velocity, quality; elasticity of underlying resources for data processing [45]	elasticity of resources for computing [24, 21, 19], elasticity of model parameters; performance loss versus model accuracy; elastic model services for performance

Source: [https://www.researchgate.net/publication/341762862\\_R3E\\_-\\_An\\_Approach\\_to\\_Robustness\\_Reliability\\_Resilience\\_and\\_Elasticity\\_Engineering\\_for\\_End-to-End\\_Machine\\_Learning\\_Systems](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/341762862_R3E_-_An_Approach_to_Robustness_Reliability_Resilience_and_Elasticity_Engineering_for_End-to-End_Machine_Learning_Systems)

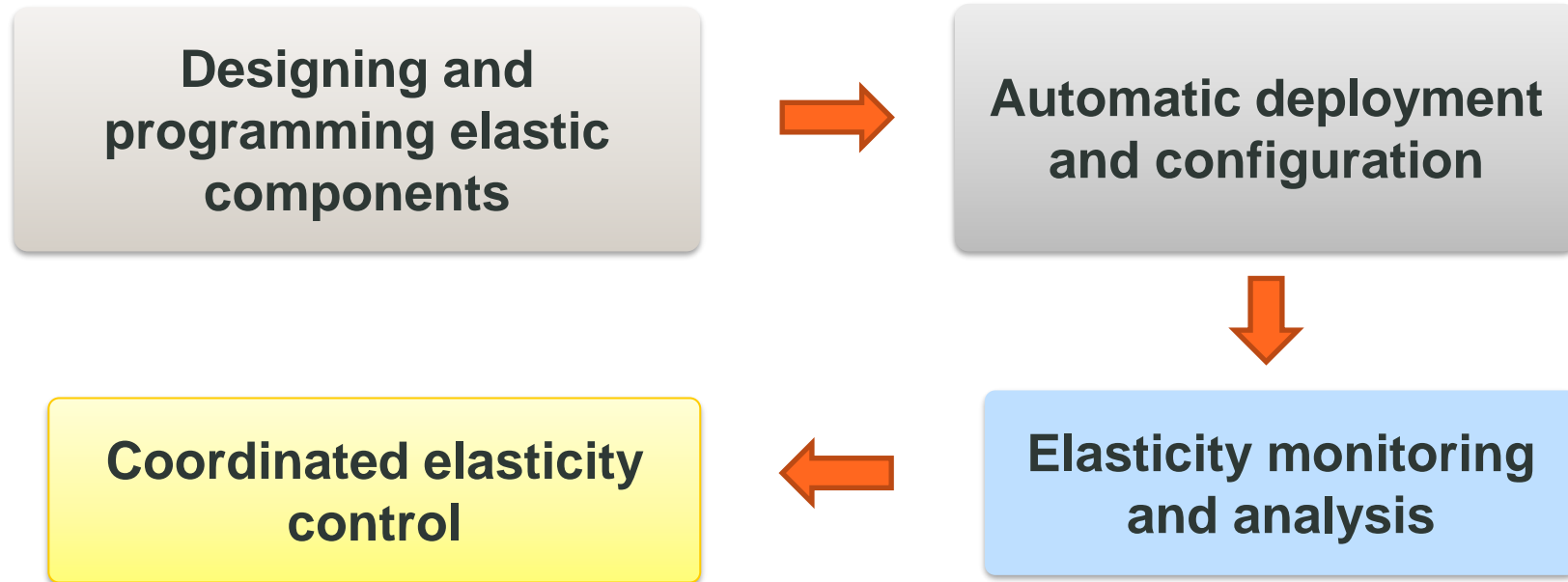
# Do we need to treat

***Robustness, Reliability, Resilience  
and Elasticity***

**equally in all your design?  
from which views?**

# An Approach with Elasticity Principles for R3E

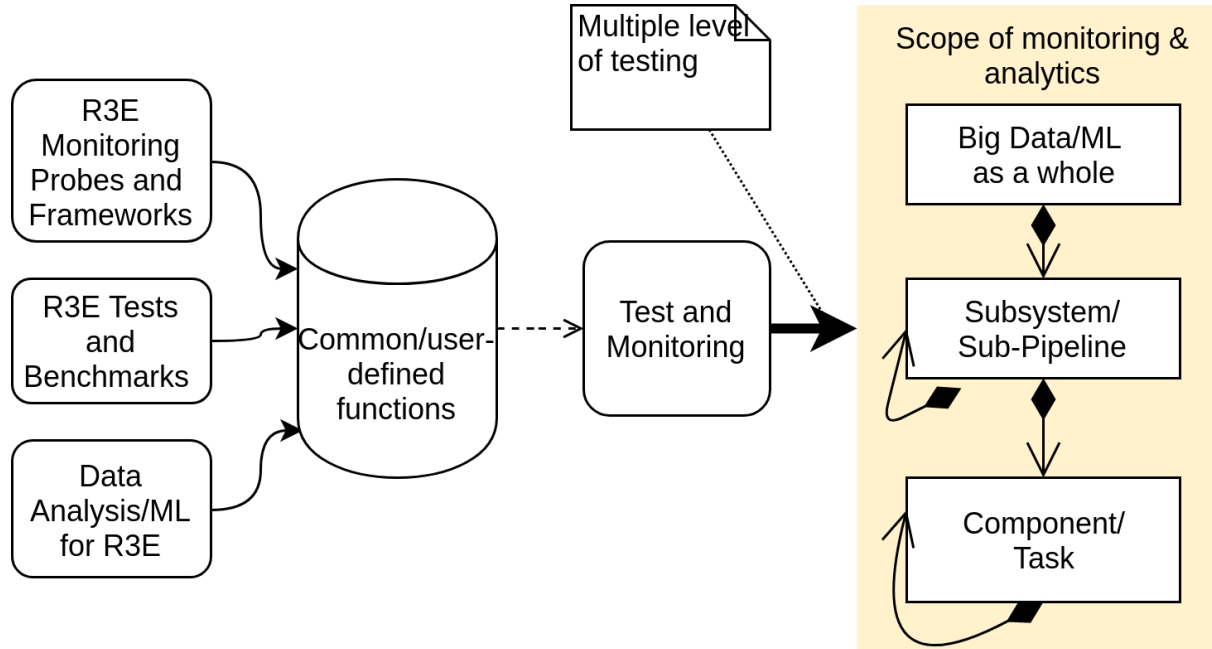
# Elasticity engineering



# Elasticity engineering for ML

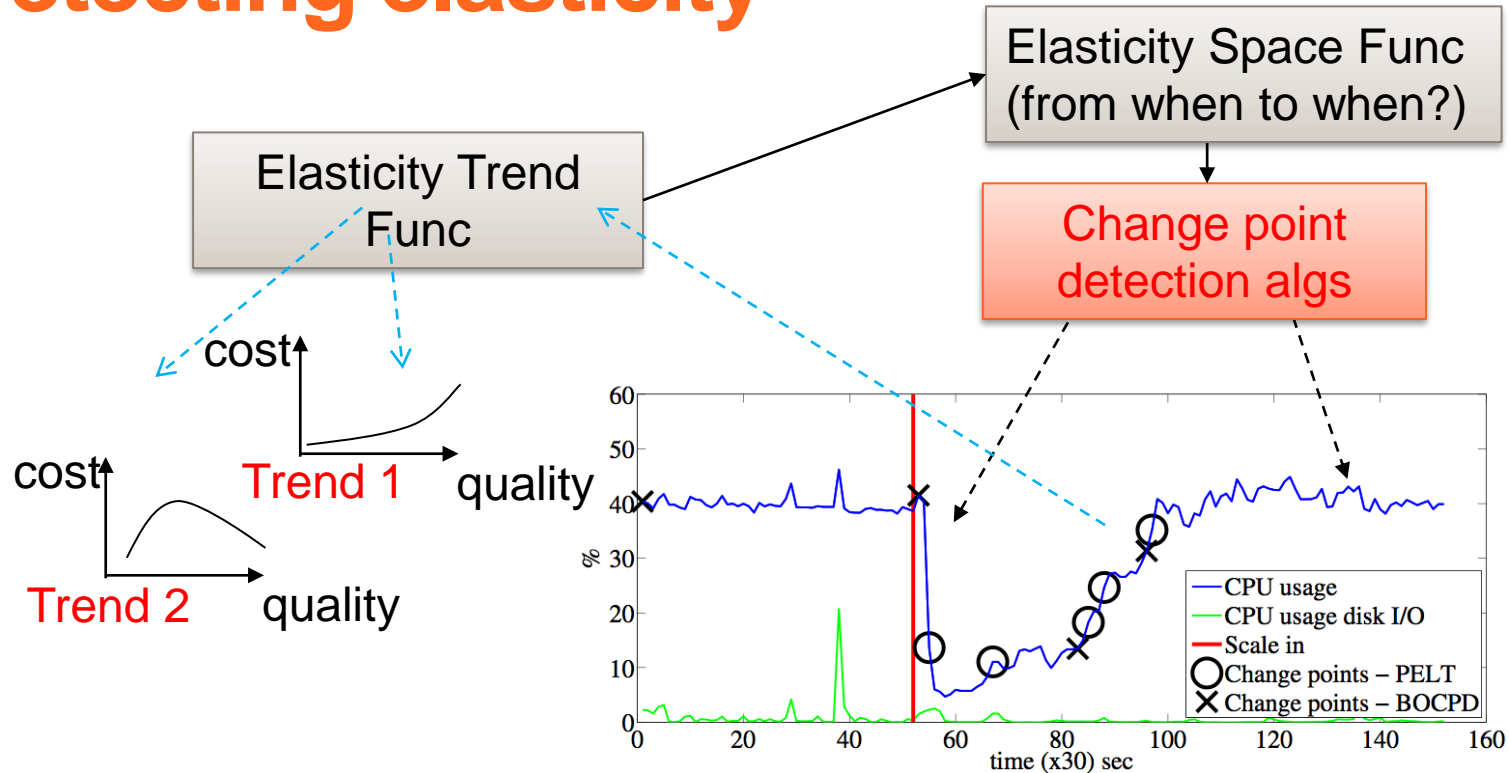
- **Conceptualizing and modeling elastic objects**
  - ML models, computing resources, data and QoA metrics
- **Defining and capturing elasticity primitive operations**
  - change resources, QoA metrics, model parameters, input data
- **Programming features for elastic objects**
  - with ML flows, coordinating QoA adjustment, dynamic serving models
- **Runtime deploying, control, and monitoring techniques for elastic objects**

# Multi-level cross platforms monitoring and analysis



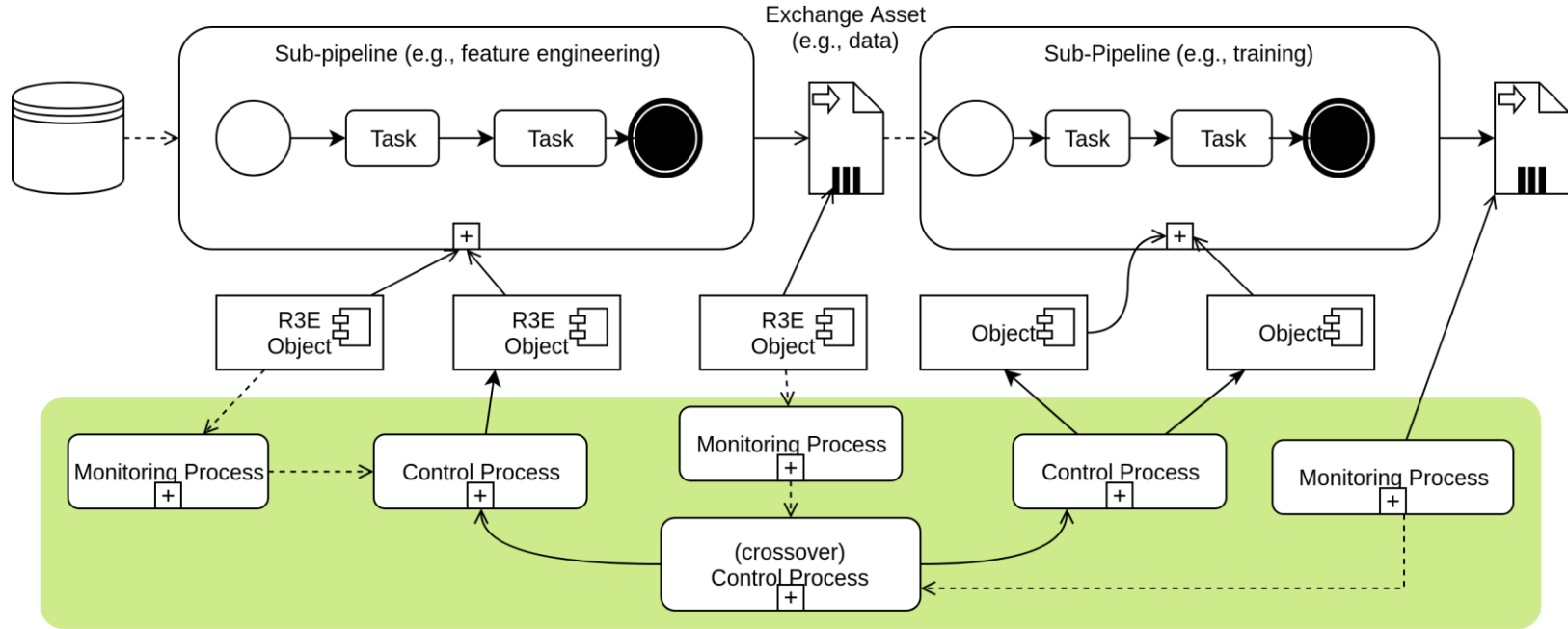
**We will have a hands-on on observability and monitoring**

# Detecting elasticity



Alessio Gambi, Daniel Moldovan, Georgiana Copil, Hong Linh Truong, Schahram Dustdar: On estimating actuation delays in elastic computing systems. SEAMS 2013: 33-42

# Using control process to ensure QoA

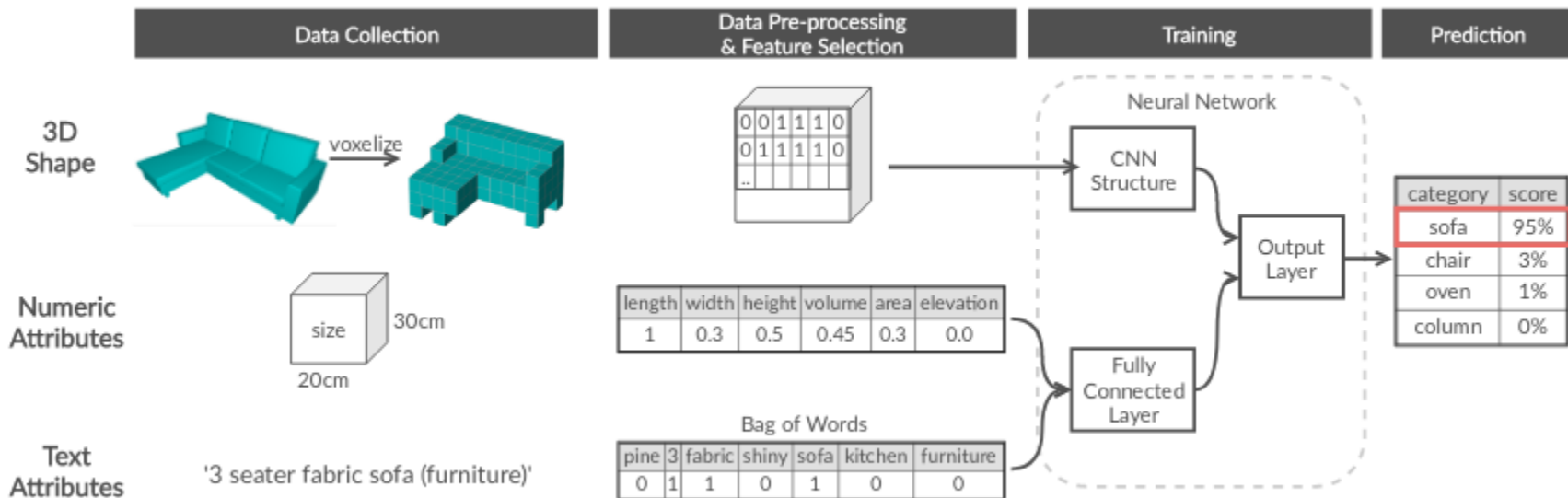


**Will be covered in the hands-on on elastic ML serving**



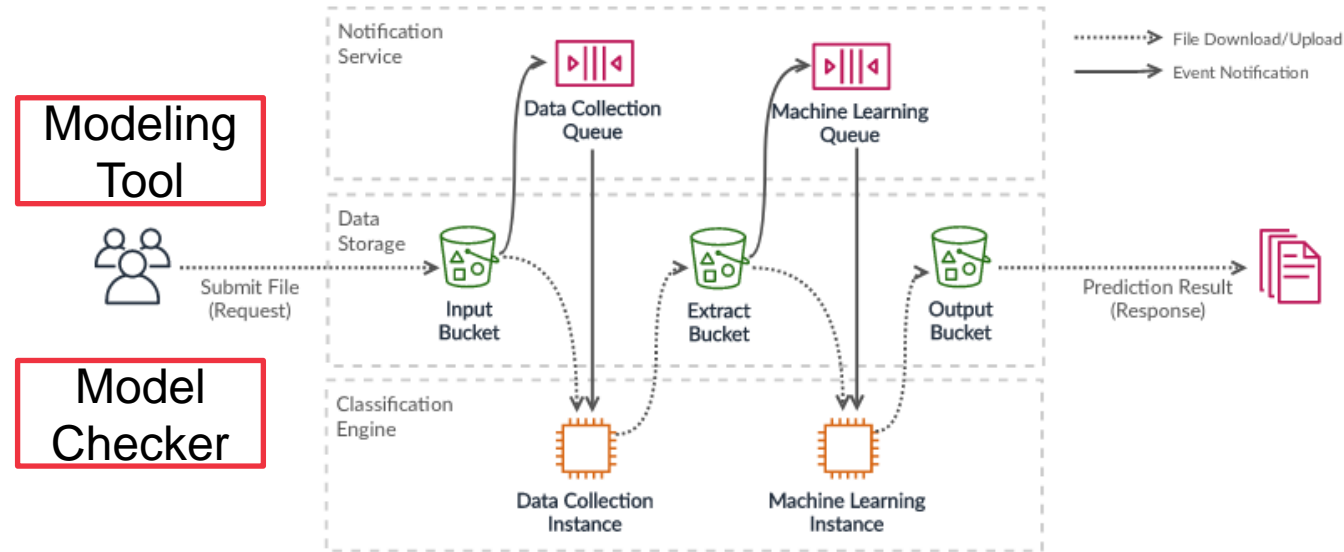
# Examples of ML systems

# ML classification for BIM (with Solibri data)



Source: Minjung Ryu, „Machine Learning-based Classification System for Building Information Models“, Aalto CS Master thesis, 2020  
 Ryu, M., Truong, H.L. & Kannala, M. Understanding quality of analytics trade-offs in an end-to-end machine learning-based classification system for building information modeling. J Big Data 8, 31 (2021). <https://doi.org/10.1186/s40537-021-00417-x>

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# Results

- Data set: 591 classification cases from 146 models
- Machines: AWS/Local with/out GPUs
- Different cases and settings

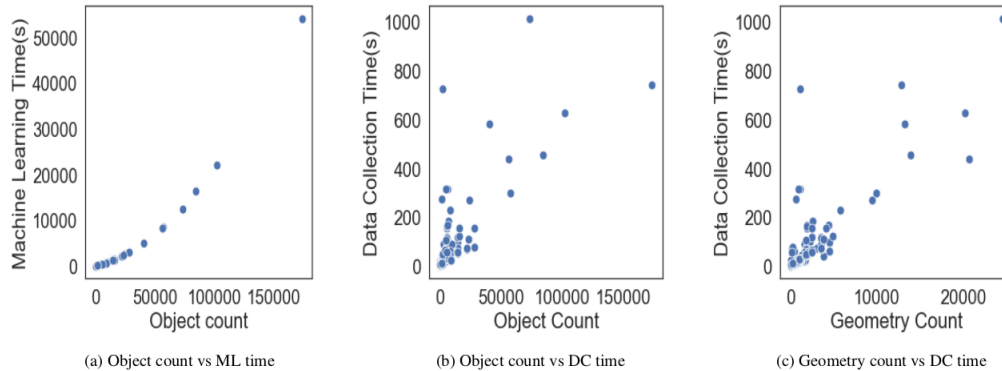
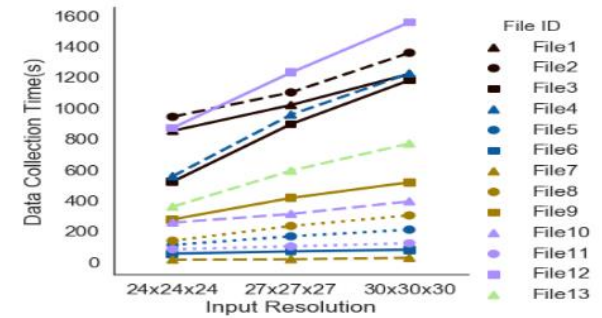
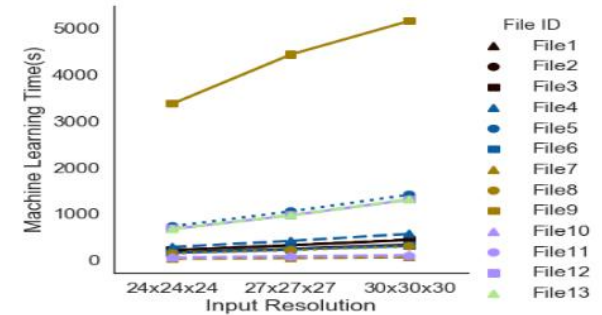


Figure 5: Impact of object counts on DC time and on ML time

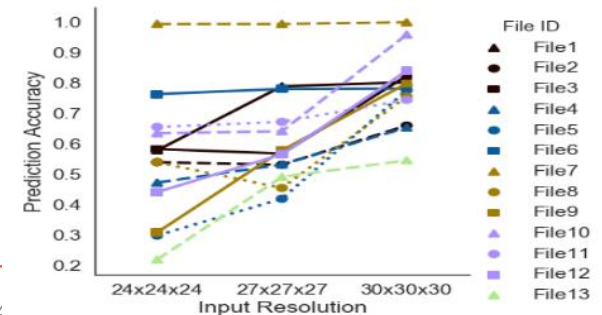
Reveal various relationships between types of data, extracting data resolution, machines and the accuracy of classifications



(a) Dim vs DC time



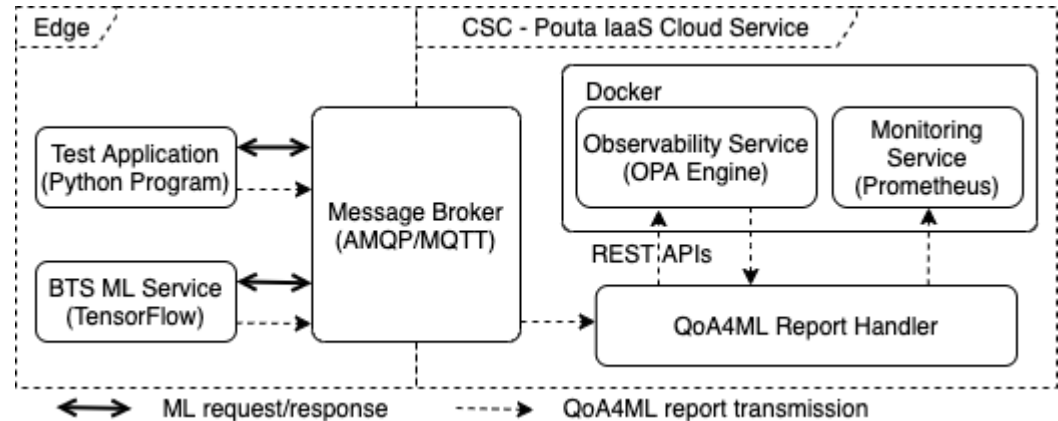
(b) Dim vs ML time



(c) Dim vs Accuracy

# End-to-end edge-cloud ML serving

- Dynamic inferences of load of power grid using LSTM, TensorFlow
  - IoT data from Base Transceiver Station (BTS)
- Training in cloud and export to the edge (BTS-model-edge) and retraining several times in the cloud (BTS-model-cloud)
- Deployment
- Contracts:
  - ResponseTime
  - Inference Accuracy
  - Data Quality

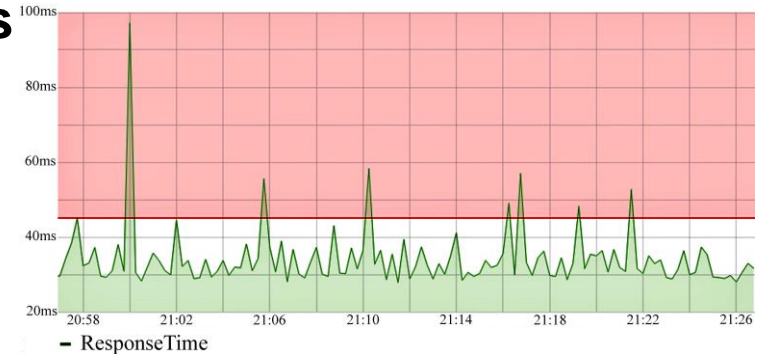


# Effect of edge and cloud serving platform deployment

Both consumer and service are in the same edge; 3000 records per 15 minutes

Broker Deployment	Broker Type	Violation Rate
Edge (Raspberry PI, local network)	MQTT	12%
	AMQP	8%
CSC - Cloud	MQTT	41%
	AMQP	16%

Broker is in the cloud



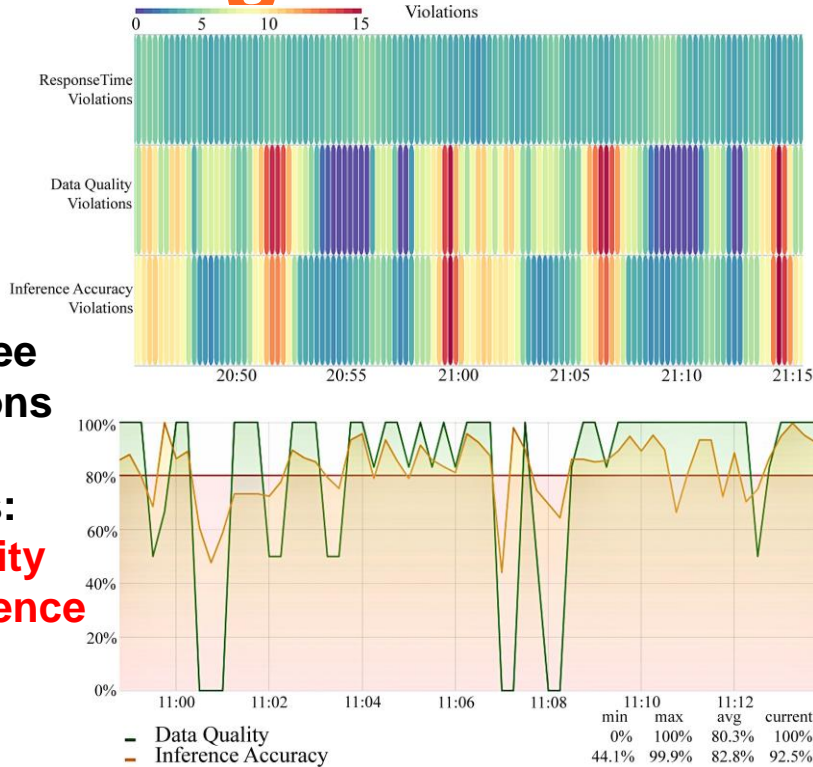
Both consumer and broker are in the same edge

ML Service Deployment	Broker Type	Violation Rate
Edge (container, Google Cloud)	MQTT	20%
	AMQP	18%
CSC - Cloud	MQTT	38%
	AMQP	21%

Source: Hong-Linh Truong, Minh-Tri Nguyen, [QoA4ML – A Framework for Supporting Contracts in Machine Learning Services](#), 2021 IEEE International Conference on Web Services (ICWS), September 5-10, 2021.

# Data and inference accuracies monitoring

Help to see correlations among attributes: **data quality and inference accuracy**



Help to detect outdated models in ML services: **violation changes when retraining models**

Time Period	Violation Rate (training once)	Violation Rate (training every 2-hour)
0am-2am	2%	2%
2am-4am	4%	3%
4am-6am	18%	4%
6am-8am	15%	6%
8am-10am	10%	4%
10am-12pm	7%	4%
12pm-2pm	3%	3%
2pm-4pm	5%	5%
4pm-6pm	10%	7%
6pm-8pm	15%	5%
8pm-10pm	4%	2%
10pm-0am	1%	3%

# Study log for this week

## Think about

- What does it mean R3E for *YOUR big data and machine learning systems*?
- Read one of the papers in the reading list

## Then

- in your experience/work, which ones of R3E concern you most? Why? What would you do? What do you look for?
- ~1-2 page – submit it to the MyCourses for comments/feedback (keep it in your git)



# Thanks!

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